

REMARKS

Claims 1-6 are pending in the application. New claims 5 and 6 have been added.

Specification and Claims

Minor changes have been made to the specification to place it in better form for U.S. practice.

Further, minor changes have been made to the specification, without affecting the scope thereof, to place them in better form for U.S. practice.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 102

(a) Claims 1 and 3 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) as being anticipated by admitted prior art (i.e., Applicant's Figs. 2A-3B). Applicant has amended claim 1 to incorporate the subject matter of claim 2. At least for this reason, the Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw this rejection.

Claim 3, dependent on claim 1, is allowable at least for its dependency on claim 1.

(b) Claims 1 and 3 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Branscomb (USP 2,915,161). Applicant has amended claim 1 to incorporate the subject matter of claim 2. At least for this reason, the Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw this rejection.

Claim 3, dependent on claim 1, is allowable at least for its dependency on claim 1.

(c) Claims 1-4 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Kallin et al. (USP 4,729,311). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

In the Office Action, the Examiner alleges that an element 48 of Kallin corresponds to the "clutch mechanism" of the present invention.

Kallin states, in col. 3, line 52 - col. 4, line 4:

The second cam section 66-2 has a control surface or flat area 72 thereon to provide a clearance between the second cam section 66-2 and the input member 64 \*as shown in FIG.. 4) when the clutch 48is in a stopped position or state with regard to the output member 66. . . . The spring 78 is used to accelerate the output member 66 of the clutch 48 from the stopped position shown in FIG. 4 to a position at which the control surface 82 engages the input member 64 to cause the second cam section 66-2 and the output member 66 to be rotated at controlled rate of speed or rotation in the counterclockwise direction shown.

Therefore, in essence, the clutch 48, which includes the second cam section 66-2, is rotated by the input member 64 that makes contact with the second cam section 66-2. As shown in Fig. 2, the input member 64 is rotated by a motor 62.

However, even assuming that the clutch 48 of Kallin corresponds to the "clutch mechanism" of the present invention, the clutch 48 is not "adapted to interrupt the transmission of the driving power to the cam when an operation of the rotation control mechanism is stopped, or when the rotating device is stopped, or an electric power to the rotating device is interrupted," as recited in claim 1.

Claims 2-4, variously dependent on claim 1, are allowable at least for its dependency on claim 1.

Furthermore, Applicant submits that Kallin fails to teach or suggest at least the claimed “cam” and associated “resilient member.”

In the present invention, the resilient member is adapted to return the cam to the home position. To the contrary, the spring in Kallin is adapted to maintain an engaging state between the cam and the input roller. In particular, Kallin states in col. 3, line 66, to col. 4, line 1:

“The spring 78 is used to accelerate the output member 66 of the clutch 48 from the stopped position shown in Fig. 4 to a position at which the control surface 82 engages the input member 64...”

In addition, in the present invention the cam is adapted to adjust the position of the arm. To the contrary, the cam of Kallin is adapted to transmit or interrupt the driving force, i.e., to function as a clutch.

Furthermore, in the present invention the resilient member is adapted to be fixed to the position in which the stretched length thereof becomes shortest when the cam is in the home position. On the other hand, Kallin does not teach limiting the position of the spring.

For the above reasons, the Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw this rejection.

#### New Claims

Claims 5 and 6, dependent on claim 1, are allowable at least for their dependency on claim 1.

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A favorable determination by the Examiner and allowance of these claims is earnestly solicited.

Conclusion

Accordingly, in view of the above amendments and remarks, reconsideration of the rejections and objections, and allowance of the pending claims are earnestly solicited.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Maki Hatsumi (#40,417) at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37.C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.14; particularly, extension of time fees.

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Respectfully submitted,

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